

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A Piezoactuator comprising a piezoceramic which can expand when a voltage is applied and contacting elements which rest against the piezoceramic, wherein the contacting elements are formed as profiled sheets which have contact surfaces formed in a surface and on one edge of each profiled sheet and spaced at intervals from one another, wherein the profiled sheets are fixed to an external surface of a plastic cage and the piezoceramic is positioned in a cavity of the plastic cage.

2. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 1, wherein the profiled sheets are bent.

3. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 1, wherein the profiled sheets are bent such that the contact surfaces press with a predetermined force on the piezoceramic to form an electrical contact.

4. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 1, further comprising a metallization, against which the contact surfaces rest on the piezoceramic, wherein the contact surfaces are fixed relative to contacting surfaces of the metallization in such a way that, when the piezoceramic is axially deflected, no frictional relative movement occurs between contact surfaces and metallization.

5. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 1, wherein the contact surfaces are formed in such a way that the first contact surfaces form a first contact track and the second contact surfaces form a second contact track.

6. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 5, wherein the contact surfaces of the two contact tracks extend in the longitudinal direction of the piezoceramic.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 1, wherein the profiled sheets are fixed to fixing points of a plastic cage.

9. (Withdrawn) A method for producing a piezoactuator comprising a piezoceramic and a contacting element, the method comprising the steps of:

forming contacting elements as contact surfaces on a bent profiled sheet, wherein the contact surfaces are spaced at intervals from one another,

fixing the bent profiled sheet to an external surface of a plastic cage, and

introducing the piezoceramic-into a cavity of the plastic cage such that the contact surfaces rest against a metallization of the piezoceramic.

10. (Withdrawn) A method according to Claim 9, wherein the bent profiled sheets are bent such that, after the piezoceramic has been introduced, they apply a defined force.

11. (Withdrawn) A method according to Claim 9, wherein the profiled sheets are etched.

12. (Withdrawn) A method according to Claim 9, wherein the profiled sheets are fixed, especially caulked, to fixing points of the plastic cage.

13. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 4, wherein the metallization is running laterally along the piezoelectric longitudinal axis.

14. **(Currently Amended)** A Piezoactuator comprising a piezoceramic which can expand when a voltage is applied and contacting elements which rest against the piezoceramic, wherein the contacting elements are formed as profiled sheets each comprising a surface having opposing edges, wherein on one side-edge of the opposing edges of the profiled sheet ~~has~~there are first and second contact surfaces formed in said surface spaced at intervals from one another, wherein the surfaces of the profiled sheets are bent such that the first and second contact surfaces press with a predetermined force on the piezoceramic to form an electrical contact, wherein the first and second contact surfaces are formed in such a way that the first contact surfaces form a first contact track and the second contact surfaces form a second contact track.

15. (Previously Presented) Piezoactuator according to Claim 14, further comprising a metallization, against which the contact surfaces rest on the piezoceramic, wherein the contact surfaces are fixed relative to contacting surfaces of the metallization in such a way that, when the piezoceramic is axially deflected, no frictional relative movement occurs between the contact surfaces and metallization.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 14, wherein the first and second contact surfaces of the first and second contact tracks extend in the longitudinal direction of the piezoceramic.

18. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 14, wherein the profiled sheets are fixed to an external surface of a plastic cage and the piezoceramic is positioned in a cavity of the plastic cage.

19. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 14, wherein the profiled sheets are fixed to fixing points of a plastic cage.

20. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 1, wherein the profiled sheets are caulked to fixing points of a plastic cage.

21. (Previously Presented) A Piezoactuator according to Claim 14, wherein the profiled sheets are caulked to fixing points of a plastic cage.